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United States Department of State

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TO: PM - Mr. Gallucci  
H - Ms. Sherman  
EB - Mr. Tarullo  
S - Ms. McGinnis  
S/S - Mr. Robinson  
P - Mr. Freeman  
- Ms. Bogue  
C - Mr. Farrar  
- Mr. Perito  
T - Mr. Barker  
HA - Ms. Ely-Raphel  
E - Ms. Shelton  
- Mr. Malott  
- Ms. Derse

FROM: EAP - Peter Tomsen

SUBJ: Don Keyser's Initial Readout of the Secretary's Bilateral with PRC Vice Premier Qian

The talks went very well. The Secretary delivered all of the points in the briefing materials. There was an 11:00 - 12:15 bilateral, followed by a 12:15 - 12:45 one-on-one, which in turn was followed by a 1:00 - 2:30 lunch, all at the Chinese Embassy. Qian passed to the Secretary a Jiang Zemin (JZM) response to the President's most recent letter to him (which Bentsen delivered).

Korea

The Secretary presented the talking points, stressing the need for China to recognize the urgency of the situation, given the DPRK's obstructionist approach regarding the IAEA inspections. The Secretary raised this at the outset of the bilateral session and also pressed these points home during the one-on-one.

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## Human Rights and MFN

The Secretary pressed hard for progress. The Chinese side came prepared to provide some positive responses:

- Blocked passport cases. The Chinese indicated that some of these were already approved; others are being processed. Providing a case-by-case rundown, they noted that Chai Ling's father is in the process of getting remarried in China but can go when he wants. One of the dissidents had already returned to China so there was no desire for his relatives to join him abroad, etc. Bottom line: the Chinese are obviously working on each of these cases.
- Responding to A/S Shattuck's prisoner list: Qian indicated a response has been prepared and will be delivered to Shattuck by Vice Minister Liu in Washington.
- ICRC Visits: Qian, in the photo op and later in the bilateral meeting, drew attention to the recent ICRC talks in Beijing but did not get into substance.
- Jamming of international broadcasting: Qian repeated the Chinese line that many Chinese listen to VOA. He noted that a middle school teacher in Suzhou recently received a VOA award for his participation in VOA programs and went to the U.S. to receive it.

There were no announcements about specific prisoner releases, although Qian hinted at what we have been hearing from other sources: the Chinese may announce the release of some prominent prisoners, including former General Secretary Zhao Ziyang's former Assistant Bao Tong, in the next few weeks. There was nothing on Tibet. We may hear more on these last two subjects during the Liu talks in Washington.

JZM letter to President Clinton

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**Qian's Prepared Presentation**

Qian's remarks again reflected that the Chinese are anxious to improve relations. Qian reviewed what he said were the positive achievements in the last eight months--Seattle meetings, Bentsen visit, revival of JEC JCCT and S & T commissions, and Codel visits. He hoped the January 24 ministerial would further advance relations.

[redacted] welcomed U.S. teams to look into MIA cases; and hoped A/S Gelbard's visit would be successful.

On military dialogue,

[redacted] The Chinese look forward to the first meeting in the Spring as well as Dep. Secretary Perry's visit.

In his response, the Secretary reviewed our talking points on each of the issues, including human rights, UNHRC meeting, non-proliferation, etc. He also delivered talking points on eugenics. On Wang, he said the USG plans to appeal. He also noted steps which the U.S. had taken like the Cray and satellite releases and conveyed that we had approved balance of plant sales.

**Non-Proliferation**

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## Qian Invitation to the Secretary

Qian reiterated the invitation to visit China. The Secretary indicated he would consider the invitation and would be in touch as his plans developed.

## A/S Shattuck Visit

Qian volunteered an invitation for John Shattuck to visit China in February or March. Shattuck agreed.

## Eugenics

Qian responded that there must be some misunderstanding of the proposed law in China. The only objective, he stated, was to protect mothers and unborn children. Qian stated that the Chinese are looking closely at proposed laws to accomplish this objective so that there would be no misunderstandings. China, he said, is also studying legislation in other countries.

## Alien Smuggling

Qian said that China is pleased at the good Sino-American cooperation in this area. The Chinese look forward to further talks with A/S Gelbard in China.

## Working Lunch

The discussion was very positive, the tone friendly and business-like. The two sides exchanged views on the situation in Russia, Muslim fundamentalism and other international questions of mutual interest.

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